

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07

IO-10 L-02 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01

SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 DODE-00

NSC-05 BIB-01 /088 W

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R 071856Z MAY 75

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1660

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T USNATO 2551

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJ: MBFR: DATA ISSUES: SPC DISCUSSION MAY 7

REF: A) STATE 103599; B) STATE 105973

SUMMARY: SPC MEETING MAY 7 REGISTERED GENERAL AGREEMENT WITH U.S. POSITIONS REGARDING GUIDANCE TO AHG ON DATA ISSUES FOR COMING NEGOTIATING ROUND. FRG, NETHERLANDS AND BELGIUM AGREED WITH U.S. THAT AHG ALREADY HAS THE GUIDANCE IT NEEDS TO EXCHANGE CURRENT FORCE TOTALS ON RECIPROCAL BASIS. FRG AND BELIGUM ALSO AGREED WITH U.S. NATO SHOULD NOT AUTHORIZE AHG TO USE MORE DETAILED DATA, OR EQUIPMENT DATA AT THIS TIME, AND THAT SPC SHOULD NOT AT THIS TIME CONSIDER GUIDANCE TO AHG REGARDING DATA EXCHANGE IN CONTEXT OF REDEFINITIONS, SINCE SUCH AN EXCHANGE WOULD BE PRE-MATURE. HOWEVER, FTG, BELGIUM, NETHERLANDS, AND CANADA OPPOSED SPC WORK AT THIS TIME ON GUIDANCE TO AHG REGARDING AN EXCHANGE OF COUNTRY-BY-COUNTRY FIGURES. UK DID NOT COMMENT ON U.S.

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VIEWS: AND WISHED ANOTHER MEETING ON DATA ISSUES. END SUMMARY

1. SPC ON MAY 7 RETURNED TO THE QUESTION OF WHAT GUIDANCE ON DATA ISSUES THE AHG MIGHT NEED FOR THE COMING NEGOTIATING SESSION.

2. U.S. REP (MOORE) MADE THE POINTS CONTAINED IN REF A. SINCE CHAIRMAN (KASTL) HAD RAISED THE QUESTION OF WHETHER EXISTING NAC GUIDANCE AUTHORIZED AHG TO ENGAGE IN RECIPROCAL EXCHANGE OF REVISED TANK FIGURES, U.S. REP POINTED OUT THAT THE NAC GUIDANCE AUTHORIZING RECIPROCAL DISCUSSION OF REVISED TOTALS CONCERNED MANPOWER AND NOT TANKS. HE STATED U.S. DESIRE NOT TO AUTHORIZE DISCUSSION OF REVISED TANK FIGURES WITH EAST AT THIS TIME PER REF B.

3. FRG REP (HOYNCK) AND BELGIAN REP (WILLOT) SAID THEY AGREED FULLY WITH THE U.S. VIEWS ON REVISED MANPOWER TOTALS, USE OF DATA IN DISCUSSION OF REDEFINITIONS, USE OF MORE DETAILED DATA, AND USE OF TANK DATA. FRG REP, IN ADDITION, CITED THREE PRINCIPLES WHICH SHOULD GUIDE AHG IN DATA DISCUSSION WITH EAST: RECIPROCITY, STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH, AND CLOSE CONTACT BETWEEN AHG AND NAC.

4. HOWEVER, FRG AND BELGIAN REPS TOOK STRONG LINE AGAINST WORK ON GUIDANCE TO AHG REGARDING AN EXCHANGE OF COUNTRY-BY-COUNTRY FIGURES. FRG REP STRESSED THAT IN FRG VIEW THIS IS A HIGHLY COMPLICATED ISSUE, FULL OF PROBLEMS, AND A PREMATURE SUBJECT FOR SPC WORK.

5. NETHERLANDS REP (MEESMAN) AGREED WITH U.S. RE USE OF REVISED MANPOWER TOTALS AND SAID THE ALLIES WOULD NEED TO PROCEED VERY CAUTIOUSLY RE EQUIPMENT DATA. HE SAID THE NETHERLANDS DID NOT OBJECT TO EVENTUAL WORK ON GUIDANCE ON COUNTRY-BY-COUNTRY BREAKDOWN, BUT BELIEVED THE NEED FOR SUCH WORK SHOULD BE PROVEN FIRST. THE EAST SHOULD FIRST COME FORWARD WITH OVERALL TOTALS.

6. CANADIAN REP (BARTLEMAN) SAID HIS AUTHORITIES TOOK A GENERALLY POSITIVE APPROACH TOWARD DATA EXCHANGE, AND WANTED TO GIVE AHG AS MUCH LEEWAY AS POSSIBLE. CANADA STILL FAVORED AUTHORIZING AHG TO PUT FORWARD TOTALS WITHOUT RECIPROCITY. HOWEVER, CANADA HAD BECOME SOMEWHAT MORE CAUTIOUS REGARDING AN EXCHANGE OF COUNTRY-BY-COUNTRY DATA, AND SUPPORTED FRG, BELGIUM, AND NETHERLANDS IN NOT SECRET

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WISHING TO UNDERTAKE WORK IN SPC ON THIS SUBJECT AT THIS TIME.

7. SPC AGREED TO UK PROPOSAL THAT SPC INSTRUCT MBFR WORKING GROUP TO DEFER ITS STUDY ON DATA REQUIRING AGREEMENT WITH THE EAST. FRG, NETHERLANDS, BELGIUM, AND U.S. STATED THAT THEY COULD GO ALONG WITH THE UK PROPOSAL.

8. UK REP (BAILES) DID NOT COMMENT ON THE U.S. VIEWS. SHE STATED THAT LONDON MIGHT HAVE SOMETHING MORE TO SAY ON THE SUBJECT OF DATA GUIDANCE TO AHG FOR NEXT ROUND, AND REQUESTED THAT SPC TAKE UP DATA ISSUES AT ITS NEXT MEETING.

9. COMMENT: INTERNATIONAL STAFF OFFICIAL HAS PRIVATELY ASKED

MISSION OFFICER IF AHG DOES NOT NEED NAC GUIDANCE ON HOW TO ANSWER
AN EASTERN QUESTION ON WHY REVISED ALLIED GROUND FORCE
DATA WERE NOT ACCOMPANIED BY REVISED ALLIED TANK DATA (ASSUMING
A RECIPROCAL GROUND FORCE DATA EXCHANGE). MISSION OFFICER
REPLIED ON PERSONAL BASIS THAT THIS SEEMED A TACTICAL MATTER:
THE AHG WOULD SEEM BEST PLACED TO DECIDE HOW TO REPLY, E.G.
DECLINING COMMENT, NOTING PER PREVIOUS GUIDANCE THAT OUR NUMBERS
ARE UNDR CONTINUING REVIEW AND SUBJECT TO ADJUSTMENTS, ETC.
BRUCE

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